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Solano County and Cities

*Amy Rein Worth*  
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*Ken Yeager*  
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*Steve Heminger*  
Executive Director

*Ann Flemer*  
Deputy Executive Director, Policy

*Andrew B. Fremier*  
Deputy Executive Director, Operations

**Programming and Allocations Committee  
December 9, 2009  
Minutes**

Vice Chair Glover called the meeting to order at approximately 11:38 a.m. Committee members present were: Commissioners Cortese, Daly, and Dodd. Other Commissioners present were: Chu, Giacopini, Halsted, Lempert, Rubin, Tissier, and Worth.

**Consent Calendar**

The Committee approved the following consent items:

- Minutes of November 4, 2009 meeting
- 2009 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 2009-33. MTC Resolution No. 3875, Revised
- RM2 Safe Routes to Transit (SR2T) Third Cycle Grant Program. MTC Resolution No. 3932
- Revision to the Third Cycle SAFETEA STP/CMAQ Program. MTC Resolution No. 3723, Revised
- Second-Cycle Lifeline Transportation Proposed Program Tier 2. MTC Resolution No. 3881, Revised
- Allocation of FY 2009-10 Transportation Development Act (TDA) and State Transit Assistance (STA) funds to the City of Santa Rosa and AC Transit for transit operating purposes. MTC Resolution Nos. 3900, Revised, and 3901, Revised
- Station Area Planning Grant Recommendation of \$1.8 million along the Sonoma – Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) Corridor
- RM2 Capital Allocations of \$1.7 million to Golden Gate Bridge Highway Transportation District for TransLink®. MTC Resolution No. 3682, Revised
- Revision to the First Cycle New Freedom Program of Projects to designate BART as grant subrecipient for the Ed Roberts Campus project. MTC Resolution No. 3847, Revised.

**Federal**

- *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) delivery update and program revisions. MTC Resolution Nos. 3885, Revised, and 3896, Revised.*

Alix Bockelman, Programming and Allocations Section, presented changes to the project listings of the ARRA addressing project savings for existing projects, the redirection of funds to new projects, and updates on the delivery status including extensions for missed deadlines.

Commissioner Dave Cortese asked that this item be amended to prioritize up to \$5 million of any cost savings or remaining funds for the US 101 Capitol-Yerba Buena Interchange slip ramp project in Santa Clara County. Steve Heminger responded that the remainder of ARRA funds may be smaller by the time this item is heard by the

Commission next week and that the priority is to get funds obligated by December 31. Staff will provide additional information and options to the full Commission on December 16.

The Committee approved the referral of MTC Resolution Nos. 3885, Revised, and 3896, Revised to the Commission for approval, with the request that options or a revised recommendation be brought to the Commission.

- *New Federal Surface Transportation Act: Cycle 1 Funding and Overall Framework. MTC Resolution No. 3925, Revised.*

Alix Bockelman, Programming and Allocations Section, presented a proposal for Cycle 1 programming and a six-year investment framework for the New Federal Surface Transportation Act which has been refined since the November Committee meeting to include a recommendation of \$80 million to the Cycle 1 Climate Initiatives program as well as the CMA Block Grant policies for program administration.

Commissioner Adrienne Tissier asked if staff has considered the letter from SamTrans requesting that a portion of the \$19.3 million MTC Resolution No. 3814 payback commitment be allocated in Cycle 1. Alix responded that to accommodate SamTrans' request another investment priority would have to be moved out of Cycle 1. However, other options would include the possibility of the State Transit Assistance returning the spillover funds originally meant to fulfill the SamTrans payback or that the Commission prioritize this request in the first year of Cycle 2. Steve Heminger suggested that an action be proposed, to prioritize that commitment, as an amendment during the full Commission meeting.

Commissioner Chris Daly asked that a similar consideration be made in response to SFMTA's request for the inclusion of \$20 million for the SFgo project in Cycle 1. Ms. Bockelman responded that the proposal does propose \$10 million in each Cycle 1 and 2 but also prioritizes the project for Cycle 1 anticipated revenues out of Climate Initiatives so that the funds could all be available in Cycle 1, should the anticipated funds materialize.

Commissioner Jon Rubin commented that because no funds were programmed for the Freeway Performance Initiative for San Francisco in Cycle 1, it would be reasonable to include the full \$20 million for the SFgo project in Cycle 1. Mr. Heminger commented that the Commission could propose that but in doing so another project would be dropped from Cycle 1.

Public Comments:

Tilly Chang, San Francisco Transportation Authority, and Joel Goldberg, SFMTA, requested consideration be made to increase the funding to the SFgo project from the Innovative Grants element of the Climate Program in Cycle 1.

Seana Gause, Local Streets & Roads Working Group, Ben Tripousis, City of San Jose, Phil Demery, Sonoma County, and Stephen Urbanek, County of Sonoma asked that the Anticipated Funds category remain unallocated because the current proposal does not adhere to the fix-it-first strategy identified in the RTP.

April Chan, SamTrans, requested that a portion of the \$19.3 million payback commitment to SamTrans be allocated in Cycle 1 or prioritized in the first year of Cycle 2.

Carli Paine, TransForm, expressed concern that the proposed flexibility in the Block Grant program may result in a raid on TLC and Regional Bike Network funds at the county levels.

Daryl Halls, Solano Transportation Authority, commented that all nine CMA Directors are in support of fix-it-first for streets, roads, and transit.

Amit Ghosh, SFMTA, requested additional planning funds for transit providers.

Andy Thornley, San Francisco Bicycle Coalition, requested additional funds be allocated to the Regional Bike program and requested that the flexibility in the Block Grant program be monitored.

Jason Serafino-Agar, San Francisco Bicycle Coalition, Beth Dadko, Sonoma County Department of Health Services, and Janel Sterbentz, Bay Area Bicycle Coalition, supported funding to Safe Routes to Schools.

Dave Campbell, East Bay Bicycle Coalition, requested full funding for the Safe Routes to Transit program.

Andrew Casteel, Bay Area Bicycle Coalition, commented that the New Act funding proposal is still a long way from achieving the commitments of the RTP and expressed a concern about the Regional Bike Program being included in the PDA Block Grants.

Christine Culver, Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition, requested full funding for the Regional Bike Plan.

Commissioner Daly asked what the vision is for the \$36 million of Innovative Grants. Ann Flemer responded that the vision for Innovative Grants is to test the effectiveness of three strategies for replication on a larger scale and to encourage innovation by funding up to five major projects that could include initiatives defined in locally-adopted Climate Action Plans. The program guidelines are expected to be developed by Spring 2010. Significant competition for those funds is expected.

Commissioner Federal Glover appointed Commissioner Rein-Worth as a voting member of the Programming and Allocations Committee in order to maintain a quorum. The Committee approved the referral of MTC Resolution No. 3925, Revised to the Commission. As part of the referral, the Committee asked that staff provide additional information so that the Commission could consider the following changes: 1) Advance \$5 million to the SFgo project in San Francisco from Cycle 2 into Cycle 1 by reducing the Innovative Grant Program from \$36 million to \$31 million; 2) Prioritize \$19.3 million to SamTrans as part of the Resolution 3814 Transit Payback Commitment in Cycle 2; and 3) Revise the Local Streets and Roads Shortfall Program fund distribution formula (i.e. mileage and population factors) as applied to Santa Clara County to account for the Santa Clara County expressway system.

- *Reassignment of \$35 million in CMAQ Funds to AC Transit. MTC Resolution No. 3831, Revised.*

Steve Heminger, MTC, presented a request to reassign \$35 million of Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funds from the AC Transit Berkeley/Oakland/San Leandro Bus Rapid Transit project to CMAQ eligible elements of AC Transit's operating budget, subject to several conditions.

The Committee approved the referral of MTC Resolution No. 3831, Revised to the Commission for approval.

### **Regional**

- *eBART Bridge Toll Policy Commitment and Fund Allocation. MTC Resolution Nos. 3934, 3684, Revised, and 3914, Revised.*

Steve Heminger, MTC, presented a request to reconfirm a policy commitment of \$196 million in RM1, RM2, and AB1171 bridge toll funds for the BART/CCTA eBART project and FY15 and allocate \$43 million to BART in RM2 and AB1171 funds for design, right of way, and construction.

The Committee approved the referral of MTC Resolution Nos. 3934, 3684, Revised, and 3914, Revised to the Commission for approval.

### **Public Comment**

Carli Paine, TransForm, commented that the Commission needs to stand strong on its land use policy and withhold funds for construction if a corridor hasn't met its housing thresholds. She spoke specifically of the Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit project and corridor.

Commissioner Glover adjourned the meeting at approximately 1:53 p.m.